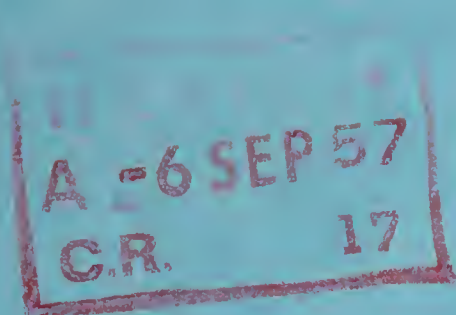




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Lanchester Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health



FOR THE YEAR

1956

S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Lanchester,
Durham.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of your area for the year 1956.

It has been a very satisfactory year, with a slight increase in the birthrate, a reduction in the number of infant deaths and still births, no maternal deaths and again for the seventh successive year no cases of Diphtheria. There was a general reduction in the total number of infectious diseases notified, and no confirmed cases of Poliomyelitis. Where possible the traditional methods of preventing infectious diseases have been applied, namely, by the reduction of reservoirs of infection, severing channels of spread, and building up the general and specific resistance of susceptibles, and this year for the first time Poliomyelitis has been added to the list of diseases against which a protective vaccine is now available. Two unknown Paratyphoid carriers were located by means of a sewer-swab technique and by appropriate action we hope that pollution of the river with these germs has been considerably diminished if not completely eliminated.

Special attention was given to slum clearance and during the year 124 sub-standard houses were either closed or demolished leaving less than 100 bad properties still to be dealt with.

There has been a continued liaison both with the Medical Practitioners and the Hospital Authorities and I wish to record my appreciation of their ready co-operation.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their encouragement and support and the staff for their co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY LUDKIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND GENERAL STATISTICS IN THE LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

Area (Acres)	44,243
Population (Estimated)	15,040
(1) Estimated number of children :—	
Under 5 years	1,142
5-15 years	1,985
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,366
(1) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	21
(2) Number of Council and North Eastern Association Aged Persons' Homes	121
(3) Number of Council and North Eastern Association Houses	1,692
(4) Number of Houses and Shops combined	55
(5) Number of Lock-Up Shops	56
(6) Number of occupied houses which have been closed or demolished during the year	124
(7) Estimated Number of Sub-standard houses still occupied	94
Rateable Value :—	
(1) Actual Rateable Value	£126,658
(2) Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated)	£434

The Lanchester Rural District, as it is at present constituted, came into being on 1st April, 1937, and consists of nine parishes—Cornsay, Esh, Greencroft, Healeyfield, Hedleyhope, Lanchester, Langley, Muggleswick and Satley.

Number of Employed Persons

excluding those resident in Castleside, Hamsteels and Esh Colliery.

	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture	102	12	114
Coal Mining	1,369	9	1,378
Coke and By-Products	163	3	166
Building	271	3	274
Distributive Trade	46	36	82
Cosmetics, Plastics, etc.	61	352	413
Professional Services	64	255	319
	<u>2,076</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>2,746</u>

Unemployed and Disabled

(a) Employable Persons out of work at 31st December, 1956 ...	35
(b) Number of disabled persons included in above figures ...	18
(c) Registered Disabled who were on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1956	12
(d) Number of persons who had special rehabilitation during year ...	Nil
(e) Number of Registered Disabled persons who have been trained during 1956	Nil
(f) Number of Registered Blind Persons	42

Comparative Rates

	England and Wales	Durham County	Lanchester R.D.
No. of live births per 1,000 population	15.7	17.8	16.49
No. of still births per 1,000 population	0.36	0.45	0.46
No. of maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	0.56	1.31	Nil
No. of infant deaths per 1,000 live births	*23.8	27.0	8.06
No. of deaths per 1,000 population ...		11.3	10.90
No. of Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	0.12	0.13	0.13
No. of Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	0.10	0.11	0.13
No. of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population ...	0.02	0.01	Nil

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, i.e., rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population were 16.98 and 12.2 respectively. When comparing the above rates it must be realised that in a population of 15,000 (approximately) the rates frequently fluctuate from year to year, one or two additional deaths producing what would appear at first sight to be a significant change.

* Related Live Births.

DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

Births

				Males	Females	Total
(a) Live Births—						
Legitimate...	...	...	...	122	117	239
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	7	9
			Totals ...	124	124	248
(b) Still Births—						
Legitimate...	...	...	...	2	5	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
			Totals ...	2	5	7

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No. of Still Births per 1,000 popu- lation	0.71	0.32	0.26	0.45	0.32	0.39	0.46	0.67	0.46
No. of Live and Still Births per 1,000 population...	19.2	19.5	16.2	16.0	16.42	16.63	15.03	16.84	16.95
No. of Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	37.2	16.9	16.3	28.4	20.0	23.6	31.8	39.52	27.4

During the year there were seven still-births as compared with ten last year.

Deaths

	Males	Females	Totals
Deaths during the year	96	68	164
Deaths from Puerperal causes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) **Infant Deaths**

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year was 8.06 (two deaths) the lowest ever recorded, as compared with 28.8 (seven deaths) for the previous year. One of the two deaths occurred in the first week of life.

The difference between still births and deaths occurring in the first few weeks of life is often very slight and as the causes are frequently the same, the seven recorded in the first category and the one in the second should therefore be grouped together when considering the problem of prevention. For a long time this group has been the hard core of wasted infant life, and one cannot stress too strongly the importance of adequate medical attention and care of expectant mothers, together with the education of the nursing mother in the principles of child care, nutrition and the prevention of infections.

Following the receipt of a memorandum from the Ministry of Health, joint meetings between representatives of the local authorities and hospital medical staff and General Practitioners were called to discuss maternal deaths due to toxæmia of pregnancy when an opportunity was also taken to discuss the whole aspect of peri-natal deaths, the existing, and the ideal anti-natal services which should be provided in the area. Conclusions and recommendations were sent to the Ministry.

During the year there were the following deaths under one year of age :—

		Males	Females	Totals	Rate per 1,000 live Births
Legitimate...	...	2	—	2	8.06
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	—
Totals	...	2	—	2	8.06
		==	==	==	==

For detailed statistics and trends see Appendix A.

(b) Deaths (General)				Males	Females	Totals
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	96	68	164
1. Cardio Vascular :—						
(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	15	18	33
(b) Coronary disease	...	...	...	15	8	23
(c) Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	2	3
(d) Other heart diseases	...	...	...	11	8	19
(e) Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	6	1	7
				—	—	—
Totals	...			48	37	85
				==	==	==
2. Cancer :—						
(a) Stomach	...	...	...	2	3	5
(b) Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	6	1	7
(c) Breast	...	...	...	—	3	3
(d) Uterus	...	...	...	—	1	1
(e) Other Sites, including Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	7	5	12
				—	—	—
Totals	...			15	13	28
				==	==	==
3. Chest Diseases :—						
(a) Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	5	7
(b) Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	5	10
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	—	3
				—	—	—
Totals	...			10	10	20
				==	==	==

	Males	Females	Totals
4. Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	1	2
5. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	—	2
6. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
7. Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	1
8. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	9	3	12
9. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
10. All other Accidents	3	2	5
11. Leukaemia	1	1	2
12. Suicide	2	—	2

The main causes of death were disease of the Heart and Circulatory System, Cancer, Bronchitis and Pneumonia in that order.

Until the last century the toil exacted by acute and chronic infections, and particularly Tuberculosis, was so great that relatively few people survived beyond middle life but so effective have been the health and social advances of the past 100 years that we can now expect many more years of life. We are, however, now being confronted with a higher incidence of different types of disease particularly those resulting from the wear and tear of life. Again this year there has been a comparatively high number of deaths from Coronary Thrombosis (particularly in males), and Cancer.

Last year I referred to the accumulating evidence of the association between smoking and Cancer of the Lung. Research work on this subject has continued and now at the time of writing this report, the Medical Research Council has published a further report and has just advised the Government that a causal connection exists between tobacco smoking and Lung Cancer. Their main conclusions are as follows :—

- (1) Only a relatively small proportion of the great increase in deaths from Lung Cancer in the last 25 years can be attributed to specific industrial hazards.
- (2) A proportion of causes, the exact extent of which cannot yet be defined, may be due to atmospheric pollution.
- (3) The major part of the increase in Carcinoma of the Lung in this and other countries is associated with tobacco smoking, particularly in the form of cigarettes and that the most reasonable interpretation is that the relationship is one of direct cause and effect.
- (4) Several carcinogenic substances in tobacco smoke have been identified.

A number of research workers have also collected evidence that other diseases are associated with, and possibly in part caused by tobacco smoking. These diseases include Respiratory Tuberculosis in adults, Coronary Thrombosis, Cancer of the Mouth, Oropharynx and Larynx, and Chronic Bronchitis.

These hazards to life and health are undeniable and it is to be left to Local Authorities to arrange the necessary publicity. Personal advice at schools and by the General Practitioner would seem to be essential and until some way of making this social habit safe has been discovered, in addition to other measures to be adopted, it has been suggested that

prohibition of smoking in cinemas and other public places might also make a contribution.

During the year there were eight fatal accidents, six occurred in the home (four of which were in people over the age of 65 years) while two occurred on the roads.

II. HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health and County Area Medical Officer for Consett and Stanley Urban and Lanchester Rural District :

S. LUDKIN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors :

G. ROWE, Cert.S.I.B., and Meat Inspectors' Certificate. (Senior Public Health Inspector).

F. E. TERRY,, Cert.S.I.B., and Meat Inspectors' Certificate.

Clerical Staff :

K. W. THOMPSON.

2. Laboratory Facilities

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Routine annual specimens were taken from three known Typhoid, one known Paratyphoid carrier, and one newly discovered carrier.

The number of specimens sent for examination during the past six years is as follows :—

Year						Specimens Submitted	Positive
1951	...	...	...	...	...	61	23
1952	...	...	...	...	...	61	12
1953	...	...	...	...	...	204	80
1954	...	...	...	...	...	402	68
1955	...	...	...	...	...	317	115
1956	...	...	...	...	...	250	65

Included in the above specimens submitted are 113 sewer swabs. These were used for tracing the origin of Paratyphoid organisms discovered in the River Browney. From 34 of these, Paratyphoid organisms were cultured.

Most of the specimens taken at Lee Hill and Maiden Law Hospitals are dealt with at the Hospital Laboratory, Shotley, Bridge, and are not included in the above figures.

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department and the Medical Practitioners in the area for examination during the year :—

	No. of Specimens Submitted	Positive
Blood (Serological Examinations)		
(a) Enteric Fever	—	—
(b) Other Organisms	—	—
Faeces		
(a) Enteric Fever	67	3
(b) Dysentery		16
(c) Food Poisoning		2
(d) Other Organisms		—
Urine		
(a) Enteric Fever	—	—
(b) Other Organisms	—	—
Swabs (Ear, Nasal, Throat, Sewer and River)		
(a) Diphtheria	—	—
(b) Haemolytic Streptococci	1	—
(c) Paratyphoid	120	34
Sputum for Tuberculosis		
(a) Chest Clinics	59	8
(b) Other Medical Services	3	2
Totals	250	65

3. Local Health Authority Services

While a scheme adopted by the County Council in 1948 and approved by the Minister divided the Administrative County into Areas—Lanchester Rural, Consett and Stanley Urban Districts comprising No. 3 Area—for each of which an Area Health Sub-Committee was appointed, all day-to-day administration of these County Services apart from immunisation schemes, is in fact carried out at County Headquarters. The duties and responsibilities of the Committee are few and Area Medical Officers of Health merely deputise for the County Medical Officer of Health at the quarterly meetings of the Area Sub-Committees.

The County Medical Officer of Health has provided the statistics relating to the personal health services for inclusion in this report.

(a) Clinics

In order to reduce the number of maternal and peri-natal deaths there is, at the moment, considerable discussion about the ideal service which should be provided for expectant and nursing mothers. That adequate ante and post-natal services are necessary is agreed by all, but there is some feeling that there might be better co-ordination or re-distribution of the services provided by hospitals, general practitioners and local health authority clinics.

Views on this subject were thoroughly aired at a meeting convened at Dryburn Hospital, final conclusions and recommendations being sent up to the Ministry of Health.

(i) *Birth Control*

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wetherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett, on alternate Friday mornings

(ii) *Ante-Natal*

Clinics are held as follows :—

WESLEYAN METHODIST SCHOOLROOM, LANGLEY PARK—alternate Thursday afternoons.

PARISH HALL, LANCHESTER—alternate Monday mornings.

NEW MINERS' HALL, BURNHOPE—alternate Tuesday mornings.

THE CLINIC, 10, WOOD VIEW, ESH WINNING—alternate Wednesdays.

(iii) *Maternity and Child Welfare*

Clinics are held as follows :—

WESLEYAN METHODIST SCHOOLROOM, LANGLEY PARK—alternate Thursday mornings.

PARISH HALL, LANCHESTER—alternate Monday afternoons.

NEW MINERS' HALL, BURNHOPE—alternate Tuesday mornings.

THE CLINIC, 10, WOOD VIEW, ESH WINNING—alternate Wednesdays.

(iv) *Immunisation*

Immunisation has been carried out at :—

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics throughout the area ;
- (b) By General Medical Practitioners by personal arrangement with parents ; and,
- (c) In certain schools in the area.

(b) **Nursing in the Home and Midwifery Services**

All nursing requisites are now held by the central store at Durham and are sent out to the various patients when requests are received.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in this Area :—

				No. of Cases	No. of Visits
Midwifery and Maternity	...			136	—
Medical	...	...	...	69	1,042
Surgical	...	...	...	43	759
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	13
Casual	...	...	...	—	10

There are two County Midwives and two District Nurse-Midwives who both live and operate in the District while three District Nurse-Midwives operate, but are not resident in the area.

(c) **Ambulance Service**

The Rural District is served by the County Ambulance Depots at Stanley and Consett and comes within the area served by the Consett Ambulance Control, which has a staff of four clerk-telephonists who maintain a 24-hour service.

It should be noted that the conveyance of patients actually resident in the rural district is not restricted to Consett and Stanley Depots, but is undertaken by the unit which is most convenient at any given time. Records do not permit the convenient extraction of these particulars.

The establishment of personnel and vehicles at the Consett and Stanley Depots is as follows :—

Stanley				
Driver-attendants	...	...	...	16
Ambulances	...	...	...	6
Consett				
Driver-attendants	...	...	...	18
Ambulances	...	...	...	6

(d) Prevention of Illness—Care and Aftercare

There are no voluntary district care committees, the Local Health Authority discharging the functions imposed by Section 28 of the National Health Act of 1946. As with the other County Services, all day-to-day administration is done centrally. Those cases discharged from hospital and requiring further nursing are visited by the Home Nurses if necessary or supervised and advised by the Health Visitor if this should be requested. Nursing requisites can be hired from the Central Depot at Durham.

(e) Domestic Help Service

This service has been used even more extensively during the year than previously. Charges are made, the amount depending upon the income of the household. At the beginning of January, 1956, 72 cases in this district were being served by a Home Help.

The service cannot provide a twenty-four hour one for bedridden invalids, nor are Home Helps sick visitors ; they are experienced housewives who can cook, wash and clean and who can only stay in the house just as long as it takes them to get through the necessary work.

Charges are made, the amount depending on the income of the household, but these are extremely generous.

There were eight new cases during the year and of the total assisted, 71 were aged people, three Tuberculosis cases, two Maternity cases, the remainder being cases of illness or accident, making a total of 80 Households being provided with the services of a Home Help.

(f) Health Visitor Service

There are two Health Visitors in the Lanchester Rural District, the following domiciliary visits being made during the year :—

Maternity and Child Welfare	...	3,265
Tuberculosis	...	277
Mental Deficiency	...	153
Schools	...	242
General Health	...	10
Aged People	...	27

4. Hospital Services

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. The Secretary has kindly provided the following information on the Hospitals and Clinics serving this Area.

Maiden Law Hospital

The 108 beds at this hospital are allocated as follows :—

Ear, Nose and Throat	...	...	24
Chest Unit (Tuberculosis)	...	...	84
Total	...		<u>108</u>

Lee Hill Hospital

This hospital, with a complement of 307 beds (62 of which are used as Part III accommodation for the County Council) and a Medical Out-patients' Department, deals with the Chronic Sick and includes a section for Orthopaedic Tuberculosis cases.

Bed allocation is as follows :—

Orthopaedic	...	...	...	...	28
Mental	...	...	...	...	44
Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	173
Part III Accommodation	...	...	...	...	62
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>307</u>

Shotley Bridge Hospital

Out-patient facilities for all the Specialities exist at this hospital. The 533 beds are allocated as follows :—

Surgical	...	...	...	...	121
Medical	...	...	...	...	98
Gynaecological	...	...	...	...	43
Orthopaedic	...	...	...	...	45
Paediatrics	...	...	...	...	4
Thoracic Surgery	...	...	...	...	114
Radiotherapy	...	...	...	...	50
Plastic Surgery	...	...	...	...	58
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>533</u>

(A large number of General Medical, Surgical and Gynaecological cases from the Langley Park area also drain to Dryburn Hospital).

Richard Murray Hospital

There are 32 Obstetric beds at this hospital,

Chest Clinic

Clinics for the above speciality are held in the Chest Clinic, South Moor Hospital (for residents of the Burnhope area), the Chest Clinic, Ropery Lane, Chester-le-Street (for residents of the Langley Park and Esh Winning areas), and the Chest Clinic, Villa Real, Consett (for residents of the Lanchester and Castleside areas).

At the Chest Clinic at Villa Real, Consett, the following sessions operate :—

Tuesday mornings	—9.15 a.m. each week	—Contacts of known cases of Tuberculosis.
Wednesday mornings	—9.15 a.m. each week	—Males.
Wednesday aftern'ns	—1.00 p.m. each week	—Artificial Pneumothorax and Pneumoperitoneum refills.
Friday mornings	—9.15 a.m. each week	—Females.
Friday afternoons	—2.00 p.m. each week	—Children—up to 16 years of age.

Venereal Diseases

Treatment and diagnostic facilities are provided by Clinics outside the Rural Area as follows :—

Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Males and Females :—

Monday to Friday : 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday : 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday (Emergency only) : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Durham County Hospital.

Females : Monday and Thursday, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Males : Monday and Thursday, 4.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

5. Executive Committee, Durham

This Committee controls the services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946. There are ten General Medical Practitioners, two Opticians and two Dispensing Chemists operating in the area.

6. Aged People and their Homes

Admissions to Local Health Authority Hostels are arranged directly with the Welfare Department at Durham or occasionally after reference to the District Health Department—an up-to-date waiting list for this accommodation being held locally.

In all during the year three were admitted, one to the Part III section of Lanchester Hospital and two to hostels outside the district.

Work at a hostel to accommodate 38 old people in the Stanley Urban District has now been completed and when a similar hostel, now in the planning stage, has been completed in the Consett Urban District it is hoped that this will avoid transferring old people far out of the district away from relatives, friends and the countryside they know so well.

Elderly people retained in their own familiar surroundings with a sense of being still actively part of the community can often fend for themselves if given a little help. It is for this reason that a good home nursing service together with domestic help through the home help scheme can play such an important part in keeping the aged and infirm out of hostels and hospitals. Increasing frailty makes old people liable to accident, therefore anything that can be done to house this group of the population in property where there are no unnecessary steps, no low fireplaces or lofty cupboards, will assist in preventing or delaying the onset of disabilities.

Trouble with the feet is one of the most common disabilities of old age and is apt to render the subjects immobile to a degree out of all proportion to the seriousness of the condition and the value of a chiropody service in the care of the elderly people is immense. During the year the Council agreed to subscribe towards the maintenance of such a service in the Esh Winning area which would cater for people in the adjoining Lanchester Rural District. An attempt was also made to provide a similar scheme in the Langley Park and Lanchester area but, unfortunately, the old peoples' welfare committees concerned felt that at this stage the scheme was a little too onerous.

In January it was necessary to obtain a magistrate's order to ensure the removal to and detention in a hostel of an 86-year-old gentleman living alone in insanitary conditions without anyone able or willing to care for him. Within a week or two of admission it was necessary to transfer this old man to the hospital section at Stanhope where he has remained ever since.

7. Health Education

Copies of the journal "Better Health," continue to be supplied to each school in the Area, the Members of the Council, the various youth and other organisations, and for the waiting rooms of each General Practitioner's surgery. This journal, a very readable and interesting booklet, covers the whole field of health with particular reference from time to time to child health and nutrition, family matters, services provided by the local health authority, epidemiology, environmental and food hygiene, smoke abatement and home accidents. It has proved a popular and attractive means of promoting health education in the district.

8. Prevention of Damage by Pests

During the year, 475 inspections were made to private dwellings, business premises, Local Authority's properties and agricultural premises (See Appendix D.).

The maintenance treatments of sewers and sewage disposal works were completed at two six-monthly intervals as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the first treatment in March, 225 manholes were pre-baited and poisoned and 83 were found to be infested. In the September treatment, 84 manholes were treated and 28 were found to be infested.

Close relations have been maintained with the representatives of the Northern Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and valuable information has been obtained from circulars during the year.

9. Disinfestation

During the year 195 houses were inspected prior to the tenants taking over the tenancies of Council Houses. Two were found to be infested with bed bugs and were disinfested.

10. Refuse Removal and Disposal

A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained in the area except where concessionary coal allowances are made and in these cases, it is essential to collect twice a week. It is estimated that practically 1,000 houses have this twice weekly collection.

The estimated amount of refuse is 11,209 tons per annum, this weight being reduced annually as old houses with Conservancy type of sanitation are closed for human habitation and schemes of installing modern ranges in existing houses are effected.

There is an increasing difficulty in obtaining suitable relief labour at short notice and this can and sometimes does, upset the regularity of collection.

The annual total cost of collection and disposal of house refuse for the year ending 31st March, 1957, was £9,892 18s. 10d. This gives an annual average cost of £2 5s. 4d. per premise. The average weight of refuse per head of population is 14.9 cwts. per annum.

Ash-Bin Removal Scheme

The scheme whereby new standard Ash-bins are supplied and delivered by the Cleansing Staff on the request of the owner, at cost price plus a small charge for administration, continues to work quite smoothly.

During the year 20 bins have been supplied under the scheme to various owners.

11. Trade Refuse

Trade Refuse was collected during the year from 24 shops and factories in the area.

12. Salvage

The salvage scheme has, during the year, continued to function efficiently. The staff involved in the scheme do the work of baling and sorting in their own time, the material being collected with the house refuse.

The value of salvage materials sold during the year was £892 5s. 8d. of which £513 10s. 6d. was paid to the workmen, leaving a balance, after sundry expenses of £378 15s. 2d. credit to the Council.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

(a) All houses in the area with the exception of those mentioned in the subsequent table are supplied by the Durham County Water Board mains and all have a supply on tap in the houses ; none being served by a stand pipe.

Parish	No. of		Type of Supply					Method of Distribution				
	Houses	Population	Public Spring	Private Spring/Well	Reservoir	Spring	Well	Carried	Gravity Piped	Pumped	House Service	
											Inside	Out
Cornsay ...	3	10	—	3	—	2	1	1	2	—	2	1
Greencroft ...	1	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Healeyfield ...	16	48	—	16	—	16	1	3	13	1	12	4
Lanchester ...	64	192	3	57	—	56	8	14	31	19	46	18
Langley ...	1	3	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Muggleswick ...	36	108	—	36	3	32	1	1	32	3	34	2
Satley ...	29	87	2	21	—	27	2	11	9	9	15	14
Totals ...	150	452	5	135	3	135	13	31	88	32	109	41

(b) Durham County Water Board provides a public water supply from a catchment area around Waskerley. Reservoirs are situated at Smiddy Shaw, Waskerley Park and Hisehope, while filtration and chlorination of this upland surface is done at Honeyhill, Waskerley.

During the year there was a steady residual of approximately .1 p.p.m. of chlorine while all the samples submitted for more detailed bacteriological examination proved to be satisfactory.

An application has been made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for an order permitting the construction of a new large impounding reservoir in the Derwent Valley near Edmundbyers, and a public enquiry has been held to hear objections to this proposal.

This joint project by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and the Durham County Water Board is an attempt to overcome the extreme shortage of water which occurs during drought periods.

The reservoir is expected to supply about 20 million gallons per day to authorities, the Board taking a half share of this yield. Once this is completed, there will be a substantial surplus of water for many years to come, although it will not remove the immediate difficulties, for the project will take seven or eight years to complete.

(c) The following lengths of pipes were laid in the area by the Durham County Water Board during the year :—

1261 yards of 3" diameter pipes.
168 yards of 4" diameter pipes.
1390 yards of 6" diameter pipes.

(d) Tow Law—Rowley Mains

This scheme first proposed in 1947 is designed to connect Tow Law and Rowley by a water main which should provide a piped supply to properties on the western side of the district and so rid us of the shallow wells upon which they now rely. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has indicated that they will be prepared to make a grant of £12,000 towards the estimated cost of £34,500 while the Durham County Council

has agreed to meet 50% of the annual loss which may be incurred in the scheme. During the year an Inspector of the Ministry conducted an inquiry when evidence was supplied by the local authority and the Durham County Water Board. Results of this inquiry are still awaited. It would seem, therefore, that if this scheme is approved after deducting grant, revenue and County Council contribution the Council will have to meet quite a proportion of the cost plus pumping costs of £150 per year.

WATER SAMPLING

Springs	Parish	No. of Samples	Grade			
			1	2	3	4
„	Healeyfield ...	4	2	—	—	2
„	Lanchester ...	21	4	—	5	12
„	Muggleswick ...	15	9	—	3	3
	Totals ...	40	15	—	8	17

2. Drainage and Sewage

No major sewer extensions were carried out during the year apart from those associated with the building of Council estates.

With regard to the Esh Winning Sewage Disposal Works further discussions with the Brandon and Byshottles Urban District Council continued throughout the year culminating in an inquiry carried out by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on the 9th January, 1957. These latter works have been jointly owned by the Lanchester Rural District Council and Brandon and Byshottles Urban District Council since 1892 and were modernised and reconstructed in 1936. In general the works are grossly over-loaded, varying from 6% over-load for the sedimentation tanks to 200% over-load for the humus and storm tanks, but they are in fairly good condition and quite capable of being enlarged. The anxiety of the Council is to reduced this over-loading as soon as possible and at the same time ensure that such works as is necessary is carried out to deal in some way with the sewage from Ushaw College. The population of this college in the summer is almost 700 persons and it is imperative that if permanent methods cannot be instituted some temporary measures be taken to remedy the present conditions which are not only unsavoury but are a real danger to public health.

Ministry approval has been received for improvements at Langley Park Sewage Works.

3. Sanitary Conveniences

One privy conversion was carried out during the year. 83 new houses provided a similar number of additional W.C's, while the clearance of 53 sub-standard properties reduced the total of conservancy closets.

The revised figures for sanitary accommodation at 31st December, 1956, are as follows :—

Water Closets	...	...	...	...	4,508
Ash Closets	...	...	...	...	23
Privy Ashpits	...	...	...	...	130

4. Housing

(a) New Properties

Private Enterprise

Nineteen houses were erected privately during the year as follows :—

Castleside	...	...	...	...	8
Lanchester	...	...	...	...	7
Greencroft	...	...	...	...	1
Cornsay Village	...	...	...	...	1
Satley	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					19
					==

Local Authority :

During the year the following Council houses were erected :—

Langley Park	...	...	...	...	10
Hamsteels	...	...	...	...	2
Lanchester	...	...	...	...	48
Castleside	...	...	...	...	* 4
					—
					64
					==

*By contract.

(b) Repairs and Reconditioning

By making use of Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949 (as amended), 25 grant assisted schemes were completed on house property during the year.

Since the inception of the scheme, 121 applications have been received, three rejected, four withdrawn and 92 completed, the remaining number being at various stages of completion.

Owners of property have shown an increasing interest in the scheme for improvement grants and it is anticipated that in future years, even greater use will be made of these provisions thus enabling worth-while properties in the area to be brought up to modern standards.

Six properties were modernised, without grant, by the provision of modern ranges, bathrooms, hot and cold water services, sinks, etc. :

(c) Demolition and Closures

(1) Demolition Orders :

Woodbine Cottage, Peartree	...	...	...	1
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Closing Orders :

1, 3 and 4, The Fold, Quebec	...	...	...	3
1-8, Rutters Square, Esh	...	...	...	8
1-8, Golightly Square (East Terrace) Esh,	...	...	...	8
1-3, Hill Top, Esh	...	...	...	3
1-20, Vine Terrace, East Hedleyhope	...	...	...	20
				42

(3) Formal Undertakings :

1 and 2, West View, Castleside	...	...	...	2
2, The Fold, Quebec	...	...	...	1
Lesson Grove, Cornsay	...	...	...	1
14, Office Street, Hamsteels	...	...	...	1
				5

(4) The following houses have been demolished during the year consequent to formal action :—

1-14, Gillow Street, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	14
21-32, Office Street, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	12
34-43, Office Street, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	10
11-20, West Street, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	10
6-8, Union Square, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	3
18-25, High Street, Cornsay Colliery	...	...	...	8
1-12, High Row, Waskerley	...	...	...	12
1-6, Hownes Gill Cotts., Rowley	...	...	...	6
11-20, Church Row, Burnhope	...	...	...	10
1 and 2, White Houses, Castleside	...	...	...	2
Nursingfield Cottage, Burnhope	...	...	...	1
1, Langley Mill Cottages, Lanchester	...	...	...	1
				89

(d) Back-to-Back Houses

Originally there were 73 such properties in the area which total is now reduced by 49 conversions to 24. Two conversions were carried out during the year leaving the 24 properties to be dealt with but of these 14 are now vacant awaiting the opportunity to convert them into self-contained houses.

The remaining properties are located as follows :—

		Converted					Vacant
		Original	S.C. Hses.	Business	Remaining	Occ.	
Langley Park	...	44	27	5	12	4	8
Cornsay Colliery	...	10	2	—	8	2	6
Hamsteels	...	6	2	—	4	4	—
Esh Village	...	13	13	—	—	—	—
		73	44	5	24	10	14

(e) **Medical Priority**

The Council's very sound practice of allocating a number of new houses and casual lettings to medical cases has continued and in view of our concern to reduce the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Area, all of these were granted to overcrowded families or families living in insanitary circumstances who had in addition one or more members suffering from Tuberculosis.

(f) **Overcrowding**

The continuation of the Council's policy of moving small families from large into smaller houses as opportunities arise is to a very great extent reducing overcrowding and at the same time ensures that Council property is being used to the best advantage.

6. Factories

During the year 12 inspections were carried out in the various factories in the area (See Appendix C.).

The following is a list of factories in the area at 31st December, 1956.

Trade					With Power	Without Power	Total
Alloy Reclamation	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Agricultural Contractor	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Bakeries...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Benzol Recovery	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Brick and Pipe Works	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Builders' Yards	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
Clothing Manufacture	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Cosmetics	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Ice-Cream Manufacture	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Joiners	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
Motor Repairers	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
Paint Mixing	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Sausage Makers	...	...	...	...	11	—	11
Sawmills	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Glove Making	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Locomotive Repairs	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Marine Store Dealers	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals					43	21	64

7. Public Health and Housing Acts

The following is a summary of inspections made and notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts :—

	No. of Inspections	No. of Informal Notices served	No. of Statutory Notices served	No. of Defects remedied after Notice
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts	1,368	927	22	626
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Defective	72	56	—	36
Drainage	115	115	—	79
Water Supply	62	62	—	32
Food Premises	24	14	—	4
Shops Act	—	—	—	—
Dairies	—	—	—	—
Slaughter-houses :				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	423	1	—	1
Tents, Vans, etc.	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Factories	12	2	—	2
Keeping of Animals	4	4	—	4
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	25	19	—	15
Offensive accumulations ...	149	109	—	109
Smoke Nuisances	—	2	—	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests				
Act, 1949	475	—	—	—
Verminous Premises	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Sampling	7	—	—	—
I.D. Investigations	—	—	—	—
Water Samples	40	—	—	—
Totals ...	<u>2,776</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>910</u>

Unsuccessful attempts by persuasion were made to have a dirty, insanitary, structurally unsound caravan removed from the district. It was necessary, therefore, to apply in January to the Magistrates' Court to have an Abatement Order served under Section 93 of the 1936 Public Health Act. The caravan was then removed and the owner-occupier agreed to accept accommodation in a Local Health Authority hostel.

IV. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) General

On the 1st January, 1956, the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, came into operation, repealing the Amendment Act, 1954 and consolidating it together with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950 and certain sections of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954 and the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954.

There have been a number of changes in the law as they affect enforcing authorities including the power for a court on the application of the local authority to make an order disqualifying a person convicted of an offence against the regulations from using premises as catering premises. Byelaws, Licences, etc., made under the 1938 Act are however kept in force as if they were regulations and orders made under appropriate provisions of the 1955 Act, and this applies to our Food Handling Byelaws dated 19th March, 1950.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, made under Section 13 and 23 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, added a number of new provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction and maintenance of premises, stalls, vehicles, etc., where food is handled.

During the year visits were therefore made to the appropriate premises to implement these regulations.

In order to get some uniformity in the interpretation and the application of these regulations with regard to the preparation and serving of meals at the school kitchens and all school premises, a meeting was arranged attended by the County Organiser for school meals, his two assistants who cover Consett, Lanchester and Stanley areas, together with the Chief Public Health Inspectors for Stanley and Consett.

This meeting was found to be of considerable value. The County Organiser agreed to raise certain matters of doubt with the Director of Education and it was agreed that detailed inspection be made of every school scullery and kitchen in the three areas. These latter inspections have now been completed in the Lanchester area and an analysis of structural defects at the various premises together with suggestions and proposals for improvements were compiled for submission to the Divisional Education Officer, School Medical Officer for the County and the County Organiser for meals service.

The new legislation was explained to the various traders and pamphlets prepared by the Central Council for Health Education were issued. A number of problems and difficulties arose and indeed in some cases are still outstanding and in one instance to avoid taking legal action it was necessary to obtain, at a Council meeting, certain assurances from one trader.

To ensure adequate control over the sanitary conditions and management of slaughter-houses, the Council with Ministry approval repealed the previous byelaws made in 1925 and adopted, without modification, new model byelaws prepared by the Ministry. These new byelaws came into operation on the 1st January, 1957.

Another step was taken to eradicate the source of tuberculosis infection in the community by including the district in a "Specified Area" in which all milk sold by retailers must be "specially designated," that is either from tuberculosis free herds or heat-treated in such a way that any Tubercle Bacilli which may be present would be killed. The order came into operation on the 6th December, 1955.

(b) Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised), 1949 to 1953

The following licences were issued during the year under review :—

Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	7
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	8
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	1
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	1
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised "	1

(c) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Inspections were carried out periodically at all the premises used for the manufacture and storage of food.

The following premises were registered under the Act at the 31st December, 1956 :—

Ice-Cream Manufacture	2
Ice-Cream Storage and Sale	33
Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, Potted or Pressed Food	14
Preparation of preserved food—Fried fish	10

In addition there are the following premises :—

Bakehouses	2
Cafes and Snack Bars	3
Shops :—	
General Dealers	54
Confectionery	8
Fried Fish and Chip Shop	13
Butchers and Meat Shop	14
Licensed Premises (Hotels, Public Houses, Inns)	29

(d) Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1948

All premises used for the manufacture of ice-cream were inspected during the year and a good standard of hygiene was maintained,

Seven samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle, for examination and the results were as follows :—

No. of samples	Grade		
	1	2	4
	5	1	1

(e) Meat and Other Foods

Of the six slaughter-houses which were operating at the beginning of the year one (Annfield Plain Co-operative Society) ceased to be used while the reconditioned premises at Quebec were added, re-establishing the original total of six. While six are registered, regular slaughtering has been more or less confined to only four slaughter-houses. Apparently the small trader has found it more economical to purchase on the wholesale market. Complete inspection of all dressed carcasses was carried out although this is quite a difficult problem in view of the scattering of the slaughter-houses throughout the district. Condemned meats are stained in accordance with the Ministry's recommendation and disposal is arranged by a by-product firm on Tyneside who specialise in this type of work.

Food found to be unfit for human consumption during the year :—

Commodity	No.	lbs.	ozs.
	Tins, etc.		
Apricots	2	2	—
Beans	1	1	—
Crab	2	2	6
Chopped Pork	13	11	—
Cooked Shoulder	1	12	—
Corned Beef	6	48	12
Fruit Salad	2	2	—
Grapefruit	3	3	9
Ham	2	33	8
Luncheon Meat	3	6	—
Milk	6	—	—
Peaches	2	2	4
Split Peas	1	95	—
Peas	7	29	12
Pineapples	24	24	4
Spaghetti	1	1	—
Salmon	1	—	8
Sausage	1	6	8
Tomatoes	9	11	6
Tongue	2	13	—
Veal	1	11	8
Vegetable Soup	4	2	10

There were 24 Licensed slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year,

IV. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There was a considerable decrease in the number of confirmed cases during the year as compared with 1955 (148 against 383). The difference being mainly explained by the epidemic of measles which occurred in 1955. For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see Appendix B.

During the year, all infectious diseases needing hospitalisation were admitted to Chester-le-Street Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Notifiable Diseases Reported During the Year 1956

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Area during the year :—

Disease	Total No. of Cases Notified	Total No. of Cases Confirmed	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Whooping Cough ...	72	72	—	—
Measles	24	24	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	4	4	—	—
Dysentery	11	11	1	—
Pneumonia	13	13	2	—
Erysipelas	4	4	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	20	20	1	—
Total ...	148	148	4	—

Scarlet Fever. Twenty were notified this year compared with seven last year and 12 in 1954.

There were, however, four cases of Erysipelas notified, which together with Tonsillitis, Catarrhal Infections and Septic Sores is caused by the same organisms. The disease was mild in type, only two cases being admitted to hospital. There were no fatalities.

Measles. Only twenty-four cases of measles occurred as compared with 203 the previous year. None were hospitalised and there were no deaths from the disease.

Whooping Cough. Seventy-two cases were notified during the year—three more than the previous year. I feel, however, that this is by no means a true indication of the extent of the disease in the community, there being a large number of mild and undiagnosed cases acting as a reservoir of infection.

A number of vaccines have been found to be beneficial in preventing this disease and some General Practitioners in the area are, immunising selected children with a combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough vaccine.

Diphtheria. There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year. The last case notified in the district occurred in 1949 and the last death from

the disease in 1944. This is a record we are very anxious to maintain and to do so we must ensure that all children continue to be adequately immunised and in particular to secure immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday.

The total numbers (all age groups) immunised during the year were as follows :—

Primary Injections	...	...	...	118
Boosters...	...	...	...	45

Diphtheria Notification Rates (per 1,000 population) and number of Deaths from Diphtheria are as follows :—

Year	No. of Confirmed Notifications of Diphtheria	Notification Rate per 1,000	No. of Deaths from Diphtheria
1934	68	1.9	8
1935	48	1.4	10
1936	66	2.5	5
1937	91	5.8	12
1938	60	3.8	4
1939	7	0.45	—
1940	5	0.33	—
1941	12	0.8	—
1942	10	0.7	—
1943	14	0.96	—
1944	11	0.8	1
1945	3	0.2	—
1946	5	0.3	—
1947	1	0.06	—
1948	—	0.00	—
1949	1	0.06	—
to 1956	None confirmed		

Food Poisoning. Four cases of food poisoning were notified during the year as compared with fifteen last year. Of these, one was an isolated case due to salmonella typhi-murium, the rest being associated with a Food Poisoning outbreak which occurred at a factory in the Stanley Urban District. The responsible organism was Cl. Welchii.

Dysentery. Eleven cases of this disease were notified as compared with 74 last year. Once notified the homes were visited to give advice on methods of preventing spread ; to ascertain if any food handlers were contacts and to assess the source and size of the reservoir of infection. In the majority of cases the person notified proved to be an indicator of family infection.

Poliomyelitis. No cases of this disease occurred in the area during the year under review.

In the early part of the year the Ministry of Health announced that vaccine was to be offered without charge to Local Health Authorities to provide vaccinations as part of their arrangements under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The vaccine is a modified Salk-type for immunisation against all three types of Poliomyelitis virus. After being subjected to exhaustive tests it was considered to be absolutely safe and was expected to confer a degree of protection against paralytic poliomyelitis—conclusions which have since been substantiated by the Medical Research Council's controlled experiments, results of which have been published in their recent report.

Parents of children born between 1947 and 1954 inclusive were asked if they wished to have their children vaccinated but because of the very limited quantities of vaccine available during the year only selected children were offered vaccination according to a centrally determined plan designed to maintain an even spread throughout the eligible age groups based on the month of the birth. While approximately 800 parents agreed to this procedure there was only enough vaccine to give 80 children a complete course of two injections while 16 children received one injection. These were done during the months of May, June and December.

Paratyphoid. Following an outbreak of paratyphoid in the neighbouring Durham Rural District and the isolation of paratyphoid bacilli in the River Browney during the last quarter of 1955, we continued during the year 1956 our attempts to trace these organisms. During the year 113 swabs were therefore laid up the river to a point beyond its junction with the Smallhope stream. The river itself ceased to be polluted at this junction with its tributary, but the organisms were isolated up the Smallhope stream and there were indications that these germs were coming via the out-flow of the Lanchester Sewage Disposal Works and the north branch of the Lanchester Village sewer. Eventually by this special sewer-swab technique it was possible to track down the two separate houses in each of which a carrier of the paratyphoid organism resided.

In the meantime head teachers warned pupils of the possible danger of swimming in these polluted waters and having got so far the next problem was to reduce or get rid of these organisms and thus prevent the pollution of the river. First chlorination of the sewage effluent then the installation of special sand filters were considered but for several reasons these ideas were abandoned in favour of local measures at the two houses concerned. These latter measures appear to have been successful and now no paratyphoid germs are finding their way into the sewage disposal works. These investigations illustrated very vividly and remind us that modern sewage purification processes are designed to treat or reduce organic matter up to the Royal Commission Standard but even the most efficient ones have little effect upon the bacteriological content of sewage.

Smallpox. No cases of this disease occurred in the area during the year under review but again I wish to draw your attention to the ever present possibility of its importation into the Country and the necessity of being prepared to meet this eventuality by ensuring that the majority of children are vaccinated against this disease.

The lower vaccination acceptance rate, although increasing slightly over the last few years can only be regarded with grave concern since infection introduced into the country may be carried just as easily to Lanchester as to any other part of England.

A pamphlet regarding vaccination is sent from the County Health Department to parents when their children attain the age of three months, and the Health Visiting Staff are provided with details of children vaccinated in order that they can visit those not protected. I would again urge all mothers of infants to make arrangements with their General Practitioner to have this done.

Tuberculosis. The year 1955, you will remember, was our record year, in that no deaths from Tuberculosis were recorded. This year, however, two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have died, both had been notified about 20 years ago and had sanatorium treatment on many occasions. One has been sputum positive for the last five years, while the second refused hospital treatment recently offered to her. These cases can be considered to be chronic infectious cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis whose lives have merely been extended by chemotherapy.

Nine new cases were notified during the year as compared with thirteen last year—a reduction but indicating that the reservoirs of infection still exist and that the importance of controlling them is as essential as ever.

With the reduction in the incidence of Tuberculosis well tried public health measures adopted in the prevention of spread of infectious diseases generally, come into their own and early diagnosis becomes even more important now that chemotherapy and other remedial methods are so readily available.

All the milk retailed in the area is now either heat treated in such a way that the tubercle bacilli are killed, or comes from herds that are free from this infection. It therefore remains for us to induce every inhabitant to be X-rayed annually and to supplement this with the control of reservoirs of infection and see that susceptible children and adults are protected by B.C.G. vaccination.

1. Statistics

				Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
(a)	Number of new cases notified since 1st January, 1956 :—					
	Males ...	...	...	4	2	6
	Females	...	...	1	2	3
				—	—	—
	Totals	...		5	4	9
				==	==	==
(b)	Number of deaths Registered :—					
	Males ...	...	...	1	—	1
	Females	...	...	1	—	1
				—	—	—
	Totals	...		2	—	2
				==	==	==
(c)	Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1956 :—					
	Males ...	...	...	36	18	54
	Females	...	...	42	23	65
				—	—	—
	Totals	...		78	41	119
				==	==	==

It will be noted that there were nine new cases notified during the year as compared with 13 last year.

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows :—

Age Period	CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
16—20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
26—30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—40	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
41—45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
46—50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51—55	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
56—60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66—70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
71—75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
76—80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
81 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	4	1	2	2	1	1	—	—
	5		4		2		—	
Totals :	9				2			

Number and rate per 1,000 population of notifications and deaths over the last 18 years :—

Year	No. of Notifications	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop.
1939	21	1.360	9	0.58
1940	11	0.729	5	0.33
1941	24	1.634	9	0.61
1942	15	1.059	7	0.49
1943	15	1.082	9	0.65
1944	14	1.010	9	0.64
1945	24	1.714	7	0.50
1946	13	0.897	4	0.27
1947	21	1.441	4	0.27
1948	20	1.306	8	0.52
1949	15	0.997	4	0.39
1950	20	1.304	9	0.57
1951	36	2.349	2	0.13
1952	18	1.182	3	0.19
1953	14	0.921	2	0.13
1954	12	0.788	1	0.06
1955	13	0.865	—	—
1956	9	0.599	2	0.13

Tuberculosis Services in the Area

(i) Chest Clinics are situated at Stanley (which drains the Burnhope area), Chester-le-Street (draining Langley Park and Esh Winning areas) and Consett (draining the Lanchester and Castleside areas).

(ii) Those needing sanatorium treatment are, in the main, admitted to the Maiden Law Tuberculosis Unit ; those needing major surgical treatment being transferred to Seaham Hall, Poole Sanatorium or Wolsingham Sanatoria.

(iii) After-care responsibilities rest entirely with the Durham County Council. All day-to-day administration is carried out centrally and nursing requisites, etc., are stored at Durham. Unfortunately no voluntary care committees exist and no specialist social workers attend the chest clinics.

(iv) A number of new Council houses and casual lettings have been given to Tuberculosis cases.

APPENDIX A

Year	Population	Deaths	Death Rate (crude)	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infantile Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo-Natal Deaths	Neo-Natal Death Rate	No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified									
										Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis	Bowel Complaints			Pul.	Non Pul.
															Dysent'y	Enteric	Food P.		
1938	15,480	158	10.2	238	15.4	16	67	—	—	—	33	—	60	—	—	—	—	11	8
1939	15,440	178	11.4	214	14.2	6	28	—	—	3	30	3	7	—	8	—	—	8	12
1940	15,080	176	11.6	226	14.9	13	57	—	—	54	16	5	5	—	—	1	—	7	4
1941	14,690	176	11.9	251	17.0	17	66	—	—	133	37	22	12	—	—	—	—	15	9
1942	14,170	176	12.4	236	16.6	14	59	—	—	23	37	9	10	—	1	—	—	10	5
1943	13,850	174	12.5	262	18.9	16	61	—	—	96	37	6	14	—	—	—	—	10	5
1944	13,850	157	11.0	285	20.5	18	63	—	—	63	21	7	11	—	—	—	4	10	10
1945	14,000	159	11.3	262	18.7	16	61	—	—	76	6	14	3	—	—	2	—	14	10
1946	14,490	158	10.9	159	17.8	11	42	—	—	153	11	25	5	—	—	1	—	10	3
1947	14,580	172	11.7	294	20.0	9	30	—	—	181	46	40	1	3	3	2	—	12	9
1948	15,310	155	10.1	284	18.5	13	45	6	21.1	184	90	67	—	—	—	1	—	15	5
1949	15,340	171	11.1	296	19.2	8	27	7	23.6	244	59	42	1	—	—	—	—	11	4
1950	15,310	202	13.1	245	16.0	10	40	5	20.4	222	47	79	—	—	—	—	—	14	6
1951	15,300	199	13.0	239	15.6	16	67	11	46.0	288	15	53	—	—	—	—	—	27	9
1952	15,220	171	11.23	245	16.09	10	40.81	5	20.4	134	44	75	—	4	2	—	—	14	4
1953	15,210	213	13.95	248	16.24	6	24.5	4	16.12	63	24	52	—	1	67	—	—	8	6
1954	15,100	185	12.25	220	14.57	8	36.36	7	31.8	244	12	63	1	2	17	—	—	9	3
1955	15,020	165	10.98	243	16.17	7	28.8	4	16.4	203	7	69	—	—	74	—	—	11	2
1956	15,040	164	10.90	248	16.49	2	8.06	1	4.03	24	20	72	—	—	11	—	4	5	4

APPENDIX B
Analysis of the Notified and Confirmed cases of Notifiable Diseases under Age Groups for 1956

Name of Disease	Under one year		1		2		3		4		5		6-10		11-15		16-20		21-35		36-45		46-65		66 and over		Age not known		TOTALS	
	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C
Measles	3	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	5	5	3	3	6	6	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	24
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	4	4	10	10	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	20
Whooping Cough	4	4	6	6	13	13	15	15	18	18	7	7	7	7	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72	72
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2	1	1	—	—	4	4
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	11	11
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	4	6	6	—	—	13	13
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	4
TOTALS ...	8	8	9	9	18	18	20	20	23	23	15	15	26	26	7	7	—	—	4	4	2	2	7	7	7	7	2	2	148	148

APPENDIX C

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspection of Factories

Premises	NUMBER OF :		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories	12	—	—

2. Defects Found in Factories

Particulars	Number of Defects			Prose- cuted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts ...	—	—	—	—
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—
Want of Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accomo'tion :				
(a) Insufficient ...	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	2	1	—	—

APPENDIX D

Prevention of Damage by Pests

	Type of Property				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses	(3) All other (including business premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricul- tural
I. No. of properties in Local Authorities District	32	4,366	265	4,663	245
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of :—					
(a) Notification ...	2	48	2	52	—
(b) Survey under the Act	17	—	—	17	—
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other pur- pose)	—	195	—	195	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ...	82	389	4	475	—
IV. No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :—					
Major ...	5	1	—	6	—
(a) Rats Minor ...	8	43	—	51	—
Major ...	—	4	—	4	—
(b) Mice Minor ...	—	17	—	17	—
V. No. of infested pro- perties treated by Local Authority ...	13	65	—	78	—
VI. No. of Notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
VII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
IX. No. of “Block” control schemes car- ried out	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX E

Location of Sewage Disposal Works (All Tank & Filter Type)	Area Drained	No. of Properties Draining to Works		Estimated Popul'ion
		Houses	Bldgs.	
Lanchester	Lanchester, Maiden Law and approx. half of Burnhope	758 177	15 —	2,425 619
Burnhope	Approx. half Burnhope	428	13	1,492
Peartree	Peartree	28	—	100
Holmside	Holmside	32	1	112
Langley Park	Langley Park and Esh Village, part by gravitation part by pumping	1,535	20	5,144
Esh Winning vested in Lanchester R.D.C. & Brandon U.D.C. jointly	Part of Cornsay Colliery, new Hamsteels Estate, Hamsteels, Esh Colliery. Property in Brandon U.D.C. Area.	599	23	2,100
Hedleyhill Pit	Hedleyhill	11	—	38
East Hedleyhope	East Hedleyhope	46	3	162
Hedleyhope Colliery	Hedleyhope Colliery	21	—	70
Cornsay Village	Cornsay Village	25	—	78
Quebec	Quebec and Wilkes Hill	92	5	322
Hollinside	Hollinside	20	—	75
Malton	Malton Colliery	37	2	129
Satley	Satley	43	3	145
Castleside	Western half of Castleside. Sewage from the remainder of Castleside accepted for treatment by Consett U.D.C.	157	5	546

APPENDIX F

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	275	93	1	438	105	—
Number inspected	275	93	1	438	105	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	1	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	69	27	—	201	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	25.09	29.03	—	46.1	3.8	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned	—	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	15	9	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.45	11.9	—	—	0.95	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

